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House of Representatives

The House met at 2.p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 3, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: We give You thanks, God of the universe, for giving us another day.

As the various Members of this people's House return, we ask Your blessing upon each as they resume the difficult responsibilities that await them. Give each the wisdom and good judgment needed to give credit to the office they have been honored by their constituencies to fill.

Bless the work of all who serve in their various capacities here in the United States Capitol.

Bless all those who visit the Capitol this day, be they American citizens or visitors or guests of our Nation. May they be inspired by this monument to the noble idea of human freedom and its guarantee by the democratic experiment that is the United States.

God, bless America, and may all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, during the Memorial Day work period, I was grateful to participate on a congressional delegation visiting with servicemembers and our allies. We went to thank them, but the reality is our new greatest generation has inspired us.

We began at Pristina, Kosovo, where NATO personnel are nurturing a 5-year-old nation with a Muslim majority while respecting the rights of a Christian minority.

In Germany, we thanked the dedicated personnel of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for lifesaving care of courageous warriors for freedom. At Kaiserslautern, the American City of Germany, we were reassured of Germany's appreciation of America's promoting peace through strength.

Across Afghanistan, we witnessed a developing civil society from the rubble of a Soviet occupation. Our heroic personnel have trained 352,000 Afghans into an effective force to protect the civilian population from cowardly terrorists.

To protect American families at home, we must deny safe havens from terrorists overseas.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

AMNESTY IS NOT THE ANSWER

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, both the President and the Senate have immigration plans with a central component of amnesty for those who are in the country without the benefit of citizenship.

Past experience has shown us that amnesty hinders us from creating the actual solution to our problems. Remember Congress, in 1986, allowed amnesty during the Reagan administration. We were then promised solutions, but those have not been met.

But let's focus for just a minute on the reality and forget the rhetoric. Which country has been the most welcoming to new citizens? Which country has offered the oath of citizenship to more people who chose to legally enter that country? If you look at this chart, you see it on the far end. It's the United States of America, where, in 2010, 1 million new residents were offered the oath of citizenship. That's better than Turkey, better than Belgium, better than Germany.

Look, amnesty will not solve the problems of drug violence and firearms. In Texas, increased border patrol has been asked for but not delivered, and fencing along the southwest border has been canceled.

We already do a good job allowing new citizens into our country. Perhaps if we focus on securing our borders instead of rewarding or offering amnesty, some of the problems would become more manageable.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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